# **Interested in Volunteering for SHIP?**

**Qualifications:** 

We are seeking people who want to help Medicare beneficiaries and their families better understand Medicare health insurance choices and rights.

If you are reliable, able to maintain confidentiality, have a sensitive and caring attitude, can communicate well with others, and want to make a difference, contact SHIP today.

Licensed Insurance Agents and Financial Planners *are not* eligible to be trained as SHIP volunteers due to the potential appearance of a conflict of interest.

For an application to become a SHIP Volunteer Counselor contact your local SHIP Volunteer site or

Call SHIP at

1-800-548-9034

or email SHIP at

doi.ship@illinois.gov



Printed by the Authority of the State of Illinois 5,600 copies . 10/11
IOCI 0282-12 JEC:

Paid with financial assistance in whole or in part through a grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Federal Medicare Agency.



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

#### SHIP

320 West Washington Street Springfield, IL 62767-0001 Phone:

1-800-548-9034

217-524-4872 (TDD)

Fax: 217-557-8457

Website:

www.insurance@illinois.gov

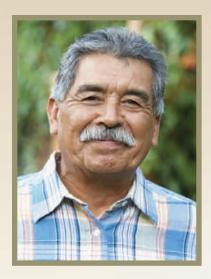
### Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

### Volunteers Needed!





1-800-548-9034



#### What is SHIP?

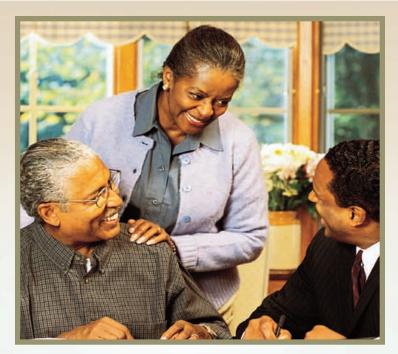
The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is a free counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers.

SHIP is a volunteer driven program sponsored by the Illinois Department of Insurance that helps consumers make informed Medicare decisions.

SHIP and its volunteer counselors do not sell or solicit insurance.

SHIP Volunteer Counselors are trained to:

- Educate and answer questions about Medicare, Medicare Supplement, Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage, Medicare HMO, PPO, and other health plans
- Assist in filing Medicare claims
- Analyze Medicare Supplement and Long Term Care policies



## What do SHIP Volunteer Counselors do?

- Provide one-on-one counseling to Medicare beneficiaries and their care givers
- Explain Medicare health care choices
- Help beneficiaries and caregivers navigate the Medicare system during open enrollment
- Speak to small groups or help out at community health events

### **Training and Preparation:**

- SHIP provides a five day training session for all Medicare counselors
- During training, volunteer counselors obtain the knowledge and basic skills needed to be a successful counselor
- SHIP provides on-going support to volunteer counselors such as information from Medicare experts
- Volunteers will be required to participate in on-going education either by Webinar or training class
- Volunteers will need some basic computer skills

